

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 NEAE-00
/057 W

-----077627 241725Z /43

P R 241715Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5531
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

S E C R E T LONDON 10549

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PDEV, EG, LY, UK
SUBJECT: LIBYAN EMBASSY TELLS FCO EGYPTIAN-LIBYAN
MEETING BEING HELD IN LONDON

REFERENCE: LONDON 10072 (NOTAL)

1. TOMKYS, HEAD OF FCO MIDDLE EAST DEPARTMENT, HAD LUNCH JUNE 23 WITH LIBYAN EMBASSY COUNSELLOR GADDAF ADDAM. THIS TIME LIBYAN AMBASSADOR MISMARI WAS ALSO PRESENT. (TOMKYS RECEIVES GADDAF ADDAM WHEN THE LATTER ON HIS OWN ACCOUNT CALLS ON THE FCO, BUT TOMKYS MAKES A POINT OF TELLING MISMARI ABOUT IT AND KEEPING HIS LINES TO THE LATTER CLEAR). GADDAF ADDAM HAD NOT GONE TO TRIPOLI OVER THE WEEKEND AFTER ALL, ONLY AS FAR AS ROME. THE MOST IMPORTANT THING HE TOLD TOMKYS IS THAT HE WAS ORDERED TO RETURN TO LONDON TO MEET WITH AN EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVE IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE LIBYAN-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS.

2. GADDAF ADDAM SAID THAT AN EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL NAMED MAGDI HAD ARRIVED IN LONDON THE NIGHT OF JUNE 22, AND WAS TO MEET WITH HIM THAT EVENING. THE LIBYANS ALLEGED
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THAT THE EGYPTIAN HAD BEEN DIFFICULT TO REACH AT FIRST, SINCE THE EGYPTIAN EMBASSY AT FIRST KITTENISHLY DENIED HE WAS HERE. THE LIBYANS SAID IT WAS HARD TO DETERMINE HOW SERIOUSLY THEY SHOULD TAKE THE EGYPTIAN MEDIATION POSTURE, BUT THAT IT MIGHT INDICATE A FULL-SCALE EGYPTIAN ATTEMPT TO GET NEGOTIATIONS GOING, EVEN IN THIS "COCK-EYED" FORM. THE LIBYANS IN THEIR CONVERSATION

WITH THE BRITISH HAVE CONSISTENTLY TAKEN A CONTEMPTUOUS LINE TOWARDS THE EGYPTIANS. THE LIBYANS EXPRESSED DERISION ABOUT THE EGYPTIAN MILITARY BUILD-UP ALONG THE LIBYAN BORDER, TELLING TOMKYS THAT BECAUSE OF EGYPTIAN LOGISTICAL FAILURES THE LIBYANS ARE SENDING WATER AND SUPPLIES ACROSS THE BORDER TO THE EGYPTIAN FORCES.

3. TOMKYS SAID THAT BILATERAL ISSUES IN ANGLO-LIBYAN RELATIONS, SUCH AS CLAIMS, TERRORISTS, AND THE PROJECTED EXPANSION OF THE LIBYAN EMBASSY HERE, WERE NOT DISCUSSED. AMBASSADOR MISMARI MADE A STRONG PITCH FOR INJECTING A POLITICAL ELEMENT INTO NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE.

4. TOMKYS NOTED THAT GADDAF ADDAM IS A HEAVY DRINKER AND HAD ATTEMPTED TO PLY HIM WITH LARGE AMOUNTS OF ALCOHOL THROUGHOUT LUNCH.

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 24-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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